

REMARKS

The Examiner has identified a number of patentably distinct species of the invention claimed in the present application and has requested Applicants elect in accordance with 35 U.S.C. § 121 a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted, if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable.

The Examiner has determined that the following patentably distinct species of the claimed invention are included in the present application and has requested election of a single species.

The Examiner has determined that claim 1 is currently generic, and dependent claims 5-6 are distinct species, dependent claims 7-8 are distinct species, dependent claims 10-11 are distinct species, and dependent claims 15-16 are distinct species. Applicants hereby elect without traverse claim 10 (renumbered claim 11) for prosecution, and have cancelled herein claims 5-8 and claim 11 (renumbered claims 6-9 and 12, respectively).

The Examiner has determined that claim 13 is currently generic, and dependent claims 15-16 are distinct species, dependent claims 18-19 are distinct species, dependent claims 21-22 are distinct species, dependent claims 23-24 are distinct species, and claims 26-27 are distinct species. Applicants hereby elect without traverse claims 16, 19 and 26 (renumbered claims 17, 20 and 27, respectively) for prosecution, and have cancelled herein claims 15, 18, 21-24, and 27 (renumbered 16, 19, 22-25, and 28, respectively).

The Examiner has further determined that claim 28 is currently generic, and dependent claims 32-33 are distinct species, dependent claims 34-35 are distinct species and dependent claims 37-38 are distinct species. Applicants hereby elect without traverse claim 37 (renumbered claim 38) for prosecution, and have cancelled herein claims 32-35 (renumbered claims 33-36, respectively), and claim 38 (renumbered claim 39).

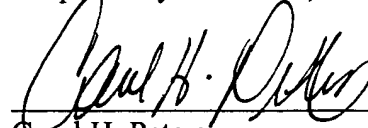
In addition, the Examiner has determined that claim 41 is currently generic, and dependent claims 43-44 are distinct species and dependent claims 46-47 are distinct species. Applicants hereby elect without traverse claims 43 and 47 for prosecution (renumbered claims 44 and 48, respectively) and have cancelled herein claims 44 and 46 (renumbered claims 45 and 47, respectively).

The Examiner has determined that claim 51 is currently generic, and dependent claims 55-56 are distinct species, dependent claims 57-58 are distinct species and dependent claims 60-61 are distinct species. Applicants hereby elect without traverse claim 60 (renumbered claim 61), and have cancelled herein claims 55-58 (renumbered claims 56-59, respectively) and claim 61 (renumbered claim 62).

Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-4 (renumbered as claims 2-5), claims 9-10 (renumbered as claims 10-11), claims 12-14 (renumbered as claims 13-15), claims 16-17 (renumbered as claims 17-18), claims 19-20 (renumbered as claims 20-21), claims 25-26 (renumbered as claims 26-27), claims 28-31 (renumbered as claims 29-32), claims 36-37 (renumbered as claims 37-38), claims 39-43 (renumbered as claims 40-44), claim 45 (renumbered as claim 46), claims 47-54 (renumbered as claims 48-55), claims 59-60 (renumbered as claims 60-61), and claims 62-63 (renumbered as claims 63-64) are currently pending in the present application with claims 1, 13, 28, 39, 40, 41, 48 and 51 (renumbered as claims 2, 14, 29, 40, 41, 42, 49 and 52) being in independent form.

Based upon the foregoing amendments and elections, the present application is believed to be in condition for prosecution on the merits. Should the Examiner has any questions concerning this response, he is invited to telephone the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,



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